

Site:	Rose, Martha
ID #:	MOD 980633069
Event:	1-2
Other:	Weston-Sper 1-17-86



Suite 306, Gateway Centre II  
4th & State Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66101 • (913) 621-6240

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE REMOVAL AND PREVENTION  
EPA CONTRACT 68-01-6669

TO:	Ron McCutcheon, EP&R/ENSV	January 17, 1986
THRU:	<i>RLS</i> Robert L. Sholar, Region VII TATL	TAT-07-F-01334
FROM:	Michael G. Clemons, Region VII TATM	TDD #07-8601-05
SUBJECT:	Investigation of PCB Spill at Rose Chemical, Holden, Missouri	PCS #5146

At 1348 hours on January 6, 1986, the Region VII Technical Assistance Team (TAT) member Mike Clemons was tasked to accompany EP&R to Holden, Missouri to investigate a reported PCB spill. Earlier in the day, the Mayor of the City of Holden had called Bill Landis at the EPA Regional Office to report a suspected PCB containing oil leaking from a tanker truck on the property of the PCB Division of Rose Chemicals and requested an investigation.

Mac Castor, EPA/EP&R, and Mike Clemons (TAT) arrived at the Rose Chemical facility in Holden, Missouri at 1548 hours. Upon arrival at the scene, the responders viewed excavation cleanup activity occurring in the south parking lot. Upon entering the facility property, the plant management was sought. Conversations with Executive Vice President James Carolan, Director of Research and Development Dwight Thomas, and Plant Manager Pat Perrin revealed the following scenario of the spill situation:

A tanker truck containing PCB contaminated transformer oil had been emptied (the Rose Chemical Company has a process to detoxify PCB contaminated oil). After the tanker truck had been off-loaded, the empty tanker was parked in the graveled south parking lot. Sometime over the weekend of January 4-5, 1986, the belly drain valve on the tank truck apparently cracked, allowing the residual oil contained in the drain system to leak onto the frozen ground. When the leak was noticed on Monday morning, the tanker was transported to the dike protected off-loading bays and the cleanup of the spill area was instituted. Approximately 10-15 gallons were spilled. None of the material had reached the nearby creek on the west boundary of the plant property. Mr. Thomas anticipated excavating approximately 24 cubic yards of earth during the cleanup and either transporting the material to U.S. Ecology or ESI for disposal. Total PCBs in the oil was 126 ppm, of which 118 ppm were Arochlor 1260 and 9 ppm were Arochlor 1242.

After being satisfied that the cleanup was proceeding smoothly and effectively, and there was neither a threat to the public or the environment, Castor granted Channel 4 News, Kansas City, Missouri NBC affiliate, an



Roy F. Weston, Inc.

SPILL PREVENTION & EMERGENCY RESPONSE DIVISION

In Association with ICF Inc., Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., C.C. Johnson & Associates, Inc., and Tetra Tech, Inc.,

interview. The TAT recommended a certification sampling plan for the area after the excavation was completed. Excavation depth ranged from 6-12 inches over the spill area, and there was no evidence of the spill entering into the creek. The reportable quantity (RQ) for PCBs as listed in 40 CFR 302.4 is 10 pounds. The spill of 10-15 gallons of oil contaminated at 127 ppm did not approach the RQ. The responders left the scene at 1708 hours.

On January 7, 1986, Rose Chemicals was informed that the required cleanup level was 2 ppm, after conferring with the Toxics and Pesticides (TOPE) branch of EPA. Rose Chemicals reported on January 8, 1986 that their analysis after excavation revealed no levels greater than 0.7 ppm.

*Michael G. Clemons*  
MICHAEL G. CLEMONS  
Region VII TATM

MGC/cm

